

Thirty-Two Negro Bishops of the Methodist Churches

THESE thirty-two Negro bishops represent four of the great divisions of the Methodist Church.

Three of these divisions are composed wholly of Negroes — the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church; and the fourth is the Methodist Episcopal Church, whose membership is both white and colored.

In these four divisions there are 14,982 colored churches or organizations, 1,160,866 members; 14,450 Sunday-schools, 96,605 Sunday-school officers and teachers, and 697,646 Sunday-school scholars. The value of the church property among the colored members of these four divisions is \$25,259,465.

A letter was sent to each of the 32 bishops, August 20, 1909, seeking biographical information, a portrait, and an article on "The Greatest Needs of the Negro Race." Twenty-four bishops responded with photographs, sketches or articles.

We have been unable, even after writing four letters and soliciting coöperation from official sources, to get in touch with the eight remaining bishops, and it is a matter of keen disappointment and regret that we are unable to present even a picture of them in this connection.

The portraits, sketches, and special articles received will be found on the following pages. The articles reflect the sentiment of men who are molders of opinion among their people and who are influential in the sphere of their manifold endeavors. The biographical sketches indicate the steps of progress by which they have risen to the positions of leadership, and the portraits reveal some of the characteristics of these "chief pastors." The names do not follow altogether in the order of their election to the episcopacy. This deviation has been necessary largely on account of the arrangement and make-up of the forms, and in several cases is due to the lateness of the receipt of portraits and information.

The following summary gives definite information concerning the bishops:

BISHOPS OF THE METHODIST CHURCHES, 1909

NAME	RESIDENCE	Born	Licensed to Preach	Elected Bishop
<i>African Methodist Episcopal Church</i>				
Henry M. Turner	Atlanta, Ga.	1833	1852	1880
Wesley J. Gaines	Atlanta, Ga.	1840	1865	1888
Benj. T. Tanner	Philadelphia, Pa.	1835	1856	1888
Abraham Grant	Kansas City, Kan.	1848	1873	1888
Benjamin F. Lee	Wilberforce, Ohio	1841	1868	1892
Moses B. Salter	Charleston, S. C.	1841	1865	1892
James A. Handy	Baltimore, Md.	1826	1860	1892
William B. Derrick	Flushing, N. Y.	1843	1864	1896
Evans Tyree	Nashville, Tenn.	1854	1869	1900
Charles S. Smith	Detroit, Mich.	1852	1871	1900
Cornelius T. Shaffer	Chicago, Ill.	1847	1867	1900
Levi J. Coppin	Philadelphia, Pa.	1848	1876	1900
E. W. Lampton	Greenville, Miss.	1857	1875	1908
H. B. Parks	Chicago, Ill.	....	....	1908
J. S. Flipper	Atlanta, Ga.	1859	1879	1908
J. Albert Johnson	Cape Town, S. Africa	....	....	1908
W. H. Heard	Sierra Leone, W. Africa	1865	....	1908
<i>African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church</i>				
James W. Hood	Fayetteville, N. C.	1831	1856	1872
Cicero R. Harris	Salisbury, N. C.	1844	1872	1888
Alexander Walters	New York City	1858	1877	1892

NAME	RESIDENCE	Born	Licensed to Preach	Elected Bishop
<i>African Methodist Episcopal Zion — Continued</i>				
George W. Clinton	Charlotte, N. C.	1859	1879	1896
John Wesley Alstork	Montgomery, Ala.	1852	1878	1900
J. W. Smith	Washington, D. C.	1862	1881	1904
J. S. Caldwell	Philadelphia, Pa.	1861	1888	1904
G. L. Blackwell	Philadelphia, Pa.	....	....	....
A. J. Warner	Charlotte, N. C.	....	....	....
<i>Colored Methodist Episcopal Church</i>				
Lucius H. Holsey	Atlanta, Ga.	1845	1868	1873
Isaac Lane	Jackson, Tenn.	1834	1864	1873
R. S. Williams	Augusta, Ga.	1858	1876	1894
Elias Cottrell	Holly Springs, Miss.	1853	1875	1894
C. H. Phillips	Nashville, Tenn.	1858	1879	1902
<i>Methodist Episcopal Church</i>				
Isaac B. Scott	Monrovia, Liberia	1855	1880	1904